



## State of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations GUBERNATORIAL PROCLAMATION

### International Clown Week

**WHEREAS**, the tradition of the clown can be traced from ancient Egypt to the Greco-Roman world, to the royal jesters of Europe, and finally to Emmet Kelly and Lou Jacobs of America; and

**WHEREAS**, the clown gladdens the heart, lightens the spirit, and brings smiles to the faces of children and adults alike, and for a few precious moments reminds us of the healing power of humor in our daily lives: and

**WHEREAS**, the clown can be seen performing at such places as charitable organizations, community celebrations, and public institutions for no other reason than to help boost the morale of those around them; and

**WHEREAS**, members of Clowns of America International, are volunteers that perform at community service related fund raising events, hospitals, convalescent homes, and parades; and


**WHEREAS**, Clowns of America International allies have joined together to commemorate Clown Week originally proclaimed by President Richard Nixon in 1971; and

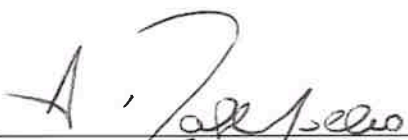
**WHEREAS**, the men and women who dedicate their lives to this tradition should be recognized for the outstanding and meaningful contributions they make in our great country; and

**NOW, THEREFORE, I, Lincoln D. Chafee**, Governor of the State of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations, do hereby proclaim August 1-7, 2012 as International Clown Week and encourage all citizens to join me in recognizing the importance of this week.



Given under my hand and the great  
seal of the State of Rhode Island  
this 5<sup>th</sup> day of July, 2012

  
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**Lincoln D. Chafee**  
Governor

  
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**A. Ralph Mollis**  
Secretary of State